

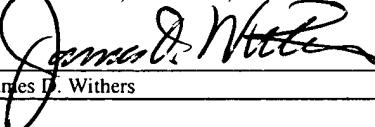


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: John E. Thomas et al. Examiner: Unassigned  
Serial No.: 10/625,188 Group Art Unit: Unassigned  
Filed: July 23, 2003 Docket: 60037.1764US01  
Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR DISPENSING PRODUCTS

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on October 23, 2003.

By:   
Name: James D. Withers

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

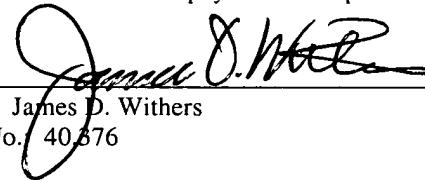
Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

- Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing
- Information Disclosure Statement, Form 1449
- Return postcard

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

MERCHANT & GOULD LLC  
P.O. Box 2903, Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903  
404.954.5100

By:   
Name: James D. Withers  
Reg. No. 40,876  
JDW

CUSTOMER NUMBER 23552



S/N 10/625,188

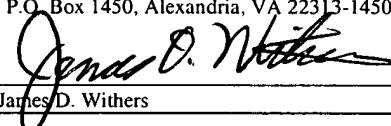
PATENT

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Serial No.:	10/625,188	Group Art Unit:	Unassigned
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Name: James D. Withers

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b))

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application, which is not an application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d). Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2), a copy of each foreign patent document and non-patent literature listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

*M.P.E.*

Application Serial No. 10/625,188  
Docket No. 60037.1764US01

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

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CUSTOMER NUMBER 23552

By:

  
Name: James D. Withers  
Reg. No.: 40,376  
Initials: JDW

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT IN AN APPLICATION (Use several sheets if necessary)		Docket Number: 60037.1764US01	Application Number: 10/625,188
		Applicant: Thomas et al.	
		Filing Date: July 23, 2003	Group Art Unit: Unassigned

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

## **FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO

**OTHER DOCUMENTS** (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/139,612 filed May 2, 2002 entitled "Product Dispenser"  
(Inventors: Thomas L. Hennemann, Jr. et al.)

23552

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

**EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.